

# The Maw

*"Only a complete idiot would go into a place like that."*  
—Lando Calrissian

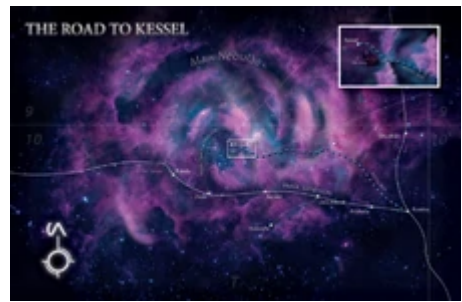
The **Maw Cluster**, or simply **The Maw** as it was sometimes called, was an unstable and mostly unnavigable cluster of [black holes](#) located near the planet [Kessel](#). The only reason the Maw was visible was due to the ionizing gases being drawn into it.

The stability of the cluster itself was something of a mystery, with some believing that an advanced civilization might have constructed it, rather than it merging together like a normal cluster would. In [44 ABY](#), the [Jedi Order](#) learned from the [Thuruht](#) hive that the Maw was created by Thuruht and other [Killik](#) hives to serve as a prison for the dark side entity [Abeloth](#). Under the direction of the [Son](#) and [Daughter](#) (who had joined the hivemind), the Killiks created [Centerpoint Station](#) and [Sinkhole Station](#). Centerpoint was used by [The Ones](#) to create the Maw itself, while Sinkhole Station was built to maintain the prison from within.

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## Description [Edit](#)

The Maw was a [cluster](#) of [black holes](#)<sup>[7]</sup> located in the [Kessel sector](#) of the [Outer Rim Territories](#)<sup>[2]</sup>, at the center of the [Maw Nebulae](#).<sup>[3]</sup> The ionizing gases being drawn into it made the cluster visible and made it one of the [Wonders of the Galaxy](#).<sup>[7]</sup>



Map of the Maw Cluster and its surrounding region.

Because of the intense gravity of the black holes, the entire [Kessel system](#) was slowly drawn into the Maw. The stability of the cluster itself was something of a mystery, with some believing that an advanced civilization might have constructed it, rather than it merging together like a normal cluster would.<sup>[7]</sup>

Most of the area of the Maw was saturated in [radiation](#), [plasma](#), and strong [gravitational forces](#). Any ship's captains that neared the edge of the Maw would notice pieces of their ships being pulled apart, and some smugglers and criminals used it as a shortcut past the [Kessel Run](#).

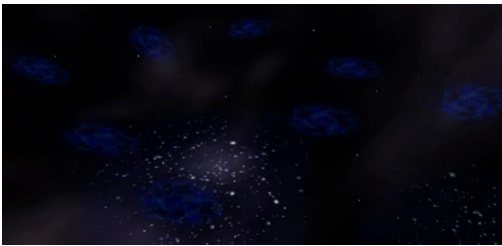
## History [Edit](#)

Millennia before the [Battle of Yavin](#), [The Ones](#) used [Centerpoint Station](#) to create the Maw [black hole](#) cluster, while [Sinkhole Station](#) was built to maintain [Abeloth's prison](#) from within.<sup>[8]</sup>

During the [Hutt–Xim conflict](#), a number of [warships](#) from [Xim's empire](#) were forced back to Kessel where several of them were lost in the Maw.<sup>[9]</sup>

## Imperial Period [Edit](#)

The Maw was the site of [Grand Moff Wilhuff Tarkin's Maw Installation](#), where the [Death Star prototype](#) and most of the first [Death Star](#) was built, although it was completed at [Despayre](#). Tarkin knew that the Maw's near-inaccessibility and



The Maw

### Astrographical information

Region	<a href="#">Outer Rim Territories</a> <sup>[1][2]</sup> ; <a href="#">Maw Nebulae</a> <sup>[3]</sup>
Sector	<a href="#">Kessel sector</a> <sup>[2]</sup>
Grid coordinates	T-10 <sup>[2]</sup>
Space stations	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Maw Installation</a><sup>[1]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Maw Imperial Prison</a><sup>[4]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Shelter</a><sup>[5]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Maw colony</a><sup>[6]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Sinkhole Station</a><sup>[6]</sup></li></ul></div>
Other objects	<a href="#">Abeloth's planet</a> <sup>[6]</sup>

[\[Source\]](#)

A planetoid near the Maw was also the site of an [Imperial detention base](#) which was [attacked](#) by the [Rebel Alliance flight group Rogue Squadron](#)<sup>[4]</sup> after the [Battle of Hoth](#) in the year [3 ABY](#).<sup>[10]</sup> During the battle, numerous prisoners escaped and the prison was destroyed.<sup>[4]</sup>

Post-Galactic Civil War [Edit](#)

The *Millennium Falcon* departs  
Kessel and the Maw.

During the [New Jedi Order](#)'s conflict with the entity Abeloth, in [44 ABY](#), the Jedi Order learned from the [Thuruht](#) hive that the Maw was created by Thuruht and other [Killik](#) hives to serve as a prison for Abeloth.<sup>[8]</sup>

Behind the scenes [Edit](#)

Appearances

Edit

- *The Old Republic: Fatal Alliance* (Mentioned only)
- *Star Wars: The Old Republic* (Mentioned only)
- *Darth Bane: Path of Destruction* (Mentioned only)
- *Millennium Falcon* (Mentioned only)
- "Echoes of the Jedi" on [Wizards.com](#) ([original article link](#), [backup link](#)) (Mentioned only)
- "*Deader than a Triton Moon*" on [Hyperspace](#) ([article](#)) (content removed from [StarWars.com](#); [new link](#) on [Suvudu](#); [backup link](#) on [Archive.org](#)) (Mentioned only)
- *The Hutt Gambit*
- *Shadow Games*
- *Rebel Dawn*
- *Star Wars: Empire at War: Forces of Corruption*
- "A Death Star Is Born"—*Star Wars Tales 4* (Non-canonical mention)
- *Death Star* (Mentioned only)
- "Galaxywide NewsNets"—*Star Wars Adventure Journal 4*
- *Star Wars Galaxies: Jump to Lightspeed*
- *Star Wars: Empire at War: Forces of Corruption*

- [Star Wars: Rogue Squadron II: Rogue Leader](#)

- [Star Wars: Rogue Squadron III: Rebel Strike](#)
- [Star Wars: X-Wing Alliance](#)

Sources

- [Han Solo and the Corporate Sourcebook](#) (Mentioned only)
- [Jedi Search Academy Sourcebook](#) (First appearance)
- [Dark Apprentice: Correllian Smuggler](#)—*Shadis 27*
- [Champions of the Force](#) "So You Want To Be A Jedi..."—*Star Wars Galaxy Magazine 13* (Indirect mention only)
- [I, Jedi](#) "The Unseen Planets of Star Wars"—*Star Wars Insider 36*
- ["Shades of Grey: The Maw Cluster" \(article\)](#) (content removed from [StarWars.com](#); new link on [Suvudu](#); backup link on [Archive.org](#))
- [Star Wars: X-Wing Alliance: Prima's Official Strategy Guide](#) (Mentioned only)
- [Star Wars: Rogue Squadron II: Rogue Leader: The Official Nintendo Player's Guide](#) (as Maw Cluster) (Mentioned only)
- [Young Jedi Knights: Crisis at Crystal Reef](#)
- [The New Jedi Order: Edge of Victory II: Rebirth](#)
- [Emis, Sons of the Void](#) (Mentioned only)
- [The New Jedi Order: Enemy Lines I: Rebel Dream](#)
- [The Haploids: The Destiny of Wrayd](#) (Mentioned only) (article link, backup link)
- [Shattered Order: Force Heretic II: Refugee](#) (Mentioned only)
- [The Complete Star Wars Encyclopedia: Reunion](#) (Mentioned only)
- [Fate of the Jedi: Deception](#) (Mentioned only)
- [The Essential Atlas: Inheritor King](#) (Mentioned only)
- [Darkness: The Guide to Droids](#) (Mentioned only)

- ["Xim Week: The History of Xim and the Tion Cluster" on Hyperspace](#) (article) (content removed from [StarWars.com](#) and unavailable)

Notes and references

- ["Xim Week: The History of Xim and the Tion Cluster" on Hyperspace](#) (article) (content removed from [StarWars.com](#) and unavailable)
- 1. [↑](#) ["Xim Week: The History of Xim and the Tion Cluster" on Hyperspace](#) (article) (content removed from [StarWars.com](#) and unavailable)
- 2. [↑](#) ["Xim Week: The History of Xim and the Tion Cluster" on Hyperspace](#) (article) (content removed from [StarWars.com](#) and unavailable)
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- 4. [↑](#) ["Xim Week: The History of Xim and the Tion Cluster" on Hyperspace](#) (article) (content removed from [StarWars.com](#) and unavailable)
- 5. [↑](#) ["Xim Week: The History of Xim and the Tion Cluster" on Hyperspace](#) (article) (content removed from [StarWars.com](#) and unavailable)
- 6. [↑](#) ["Xim Week: The History of Xim and the Tion Cluster" on Hyperspace](#) (article) (content removed from [StarWars.com](#) and unavailable)
- 7. [↑](#) ["Xim Week: The History of Xim and the Tion Cluster" on Hyperspace](#) (article) (content removed from [StarWars.com](#) and unavailable)
- 8. [↑](#) ["Xim Week: The History of Xim and the Tion Cluster" on Hyperspace](#) (article) (content removed from [StarWars.com](#) and unavailable)
- 9. [↑](#) ["Xim Week: The History of Xim and the Tion Cluster" on Hyperspace](#) (article) (content removed from [StarWars.com](#) and unavailable)
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